

ABSTRACT

There are provided an ophthalmic composition that comprises 3-hydroxybutyric acid and/or salts thereof as active ingredients and is used to prevent desiccation of eyes and an ophthalmic composition that is used to treat tear dysfunction. By use of the ophthalmic compositions of the present invention, desiccation of the eyes can be inhibited and tear dysfunction can be treated. Therefore, by use of the compositions, discomforts caused by tear dysfunction, such as desiccation of the eyes, foreign-body sensation, feeling of discomfort on the eyes and eye strain, can be improved. Further, the ophthalmic compositions of the present invention can inhibit diseases caused by tear dysfunction, exemplified by development of dry eye and suspected dry eye which are dysfunctions related to desiccation of the eyes, particularly, development of diseases caused by tear dysfunction without injuries on the keratoconjunctive.